

Subject: History of the 1804 dollar

Hooper, William Philip

1932-1933

[Spuyten Duyvil, NY]

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[Forest Hills, L.I., NY]

Spuyten Duyvil, N.Y. City, Aug. 22- 1932

Mr. Wood,

The Numismatic Museum.

Dear Sir,

Mrs Boyden-Chase Bank Collection- has  
given me a card to Mr, Wood; last week I  
called at the Museum in the A.M. and found  
it was closed till afternoon; soon I will  
try again.

I am writing articles on "Gold ,Silver &  
Treasure."

Mrs Boyden thought you might help me by  
information on the history of the 1804  
silver dollar..Perhaps you have a book  
in your library that would help.

Your assistance will be much  
appreciated.

Stamped env. encl.

Will Phil. Hooper  
With respects and regards.

WILL PHIL HOOPER  
SPUYTEN DUYVIL  
NEW YORK CITY

(Illustrate as well as write)

August 24, 1932.

Mr. W. P. Hooper  
Spuyten Duyvil  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

I am sorry that you did not ring the bell when you were at the museum the other day, as you could have gotten in. We have in our library probably all that has been written on the 1804 dollar in the various magazines, pamphlets etc. If I am not in you can ask for the librarian who can put before you all of the available material on the 1804 dollar. As you probably know, all facts seem to prove that this dollar was not made until about 1840 and was made up in to the late 70's, when the dies were destroyed.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator



51 Summer ST. FOREST HILLS GARDENS. L.I

N.Y.

June 10-1933

Mr. Howland Wood

The American Numismatic Society.

Dear Sir,

To refer to your kind letter of Aug. 24-1932.  
I am now taking up again my booklet on "money" & for  
a bank.

I want to settle on one short account of the  
1804 dollar as I am limited to about 150 words..

Vesterday in making an attempt to go to your  
museum I got as far as 180 St then I realized time was  
too short, as my appointment with Mr. Zerbe at the Chase  
collection was at two thirty.

ON Tuesday I have another date with him when he  
is to have two plates for my booklet, and in the morning  
I am going to try to ~~go~~ to 155 St., hoping I may  
have the pleasure of finding you.

WILL PHIL. HOOPER

With respects and regards.

*W.P.H.*



51 Summer Street, Forest Hills Gardens, L. I. - N. Y. July 10

Mr. Howland Wood,

Numismatic Museum

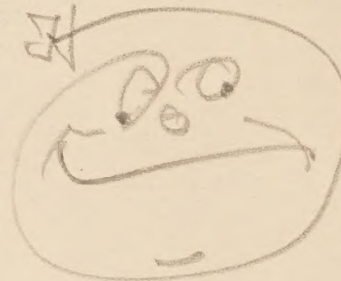
Dear Mr. Wood,

Perhaps the encl. from "Bureau of  
Standards" (to whom you suggest that  
I write) may interest you.

Am just finishing the "cuts" for my booklet-expect to turn  
the salesman loose in two days!

Yours very truly,

Will Phil. Hooper.





July 11, 1933.

Mr. Will Phil Hooper  
51 Summer St.  
Forest Hills Gardens, L. I.

Dear Sir:

Many thanks for sending on the Bureau of Standards letter concerning the drawing of gold wire. I have read this with much interest and I am herewith returning the letter to you, as you probably want it.

Very truly yours,

HW:JC

Curator

5 I Summer St. Forest Hills Gardens, L.I.- N.Y.-July 12th,-193

Dear Mr. Howland Wood,

Curator

The American Numismatic Society.

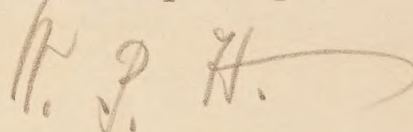
Thank you for the return of the "Gold Wire"  
letter; now here's another that may interest;  
from Mr. M.M. O'Reilly- re, the 1804 dollar.

IN my booklet I'd like to write a  
word acknowledging your courtesy in helping me  
on some perplexing points; something like this-

I am indebted to Mr. Howland Wood, Curator, The  
American Numismatic Society, for his courtesy  
in helping the writer to straighten out some  
historical points mentioned in this booklet.

Very truly yours,

Will Phillip Hooper.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. P. Hooper', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.



July 13, 1933.

Mr. Will Phillip Hooper  
51 Summer St.  
Forest Hills Gardens, L. I.

Dear Sir:

Your letter from Miss O'Reilly is the usual letter that she writes concerning the 1804 dollar. As I think I told you probably that number were made in 1804 but there is no reason to suspect that they bore the date 1804 as the mint at that time kept on using their dies until they were worn out or obsolete. In fact, we know certain dies used four years after the date they bore. I am herewith returning your letter. You may stick in anything you wish concerning your indebtedness to me, which after all is very little.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator



51 Summer St.-Forest Hills Gardens, L.I.-N.Y.  
June 17-1933



Dear Mr. Howland Wood,

For your reply to my request I can only say, "Evermore thanks, the exchequer of the poor". (AT present that is) There is so much talk and interest about the Gold Standard that I like very much to make some statement about who started it and when.

Poor old discredited Del Mar! He does make the statement so decided and clear that I weep to throw him down.

Now am I to understand from your annotation that "The first government to establish a Gold Standard"-the very beginning of the 8th century? B.C. or A.D.? -Egypt or Venice?

Pardon my stupidity.

Very sincerely

Will Phil. Hooper.

*I will get at "Fractional Money"  
by Neil Carothers - soon as  
possible—*

*St. Ent. Ent?*

June 20, 1933.

Mr. Will Phil Hooper  
51 Summer St.  
Forest Hills Gardens, L. I.

Dear Sir:

When you tack~~aa~~ the beginning of anything as a rule you do not have concrete facts. From the coin standpoint I would say the first gold coins would institute the first gold standard. From the numismatic standpoint; for many centuries before the first coins the various civilized nations in the near east used gold and had a proper ratio between that and silver. Unfortunately the first gold coins were not pure gold but were the natural alloy as found of gold and silver, which we call electrum. These were made in Lydia. Beyond this we know little. However, Croesus in Lydia made the first pure gold coins. He simply improved on what went before. For those days it is sometimes hard to use the word "government". We think of those early races as people. When I said the eighth century I meant B. C. There are many good books dealing with the beginnings of coinage. One of the best reference books, and from which you can get an extensive bibliography, is Vincent Head's, "Historia Nummorum". Nearly every library has this book.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator





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26 Sept  
1933

Mr. Howland Wood,

Curator,

The American Numismatic Society.

Dear Mr. Wood-(The customary salutations)

Re.- the U. S. Gold Dollar!

Can you tell me when was it first minted?  
and when was the last issue?

Any facts on this will be much appreciated.

ST. env. encl.

As ever yours

Will Phil. Hooper

The Geographic Magazine had an article on Silver  
in the Sept. issue. and one on MONEY-Dec. 1927,  
also in April this year-"Men & Gold", by Fred. Simpich.

W. P. H.

1849-1889

WILL PHIL HOOPER  
51 SUMMER ST.  
FOREST HILLS GARDENS  
L. I. N. Y.

September 27, 1933.

Mr. Will Phil Hooper  
51 Summer St.  
Forest Hills Gardens  
Long Island, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Hooper:

The gold dollars began to be minted in 1849 and the last regular issue was in 1889. Since then some commemorative gold dollars have been issued but these were not regular currency for circulation. I have seen those various articles in the Geographic magazine. As I remember them they had more errors in them than they should have.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator